

REMARKS

Independent claim 10 has been amended to recite a method of forming a weld between plastics workpieces over a joint region, the method further including providing a radiation absorbing material at the joint region in one of the workpieces or between the workpieces which has an absorption band in the range 780 nm – 1500 nm matched to the wavelength of the incident radiation so as to absorb the incident radiation and generate heat for the melting process, wherein the radiation absorbing material is visually transmissive so that the material does not substantially affect the appearance of the joint or the workpieces in visible light.

Dependent claim 1 has been reinstated as including the limitation of the formerly dependent claim 10, and recites that the radiation absorbing material is a radiation absorbing dye. Dependent claims 2-8 are amended to recite steps relating to the radiation absorbing material. Dependent claims 9 and 11 are cancelled, and dependent claims 22-25 and 28 have been reinstated. Also, dependent claims 27 and 29 have been made dependent from claim 10. Claims 1-8, 10, and 11-30 remain in the Application.

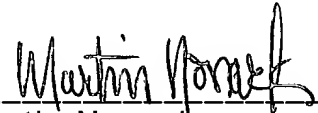
Applicant will soon be submitting to the Examiner copies of further documents that recently came to light in a corresponding foreign prosecution. The undersigned Counsel does not yet have these further

documents in hand. They are being sent from overseas, and will be submitted in conjunction with a further Information Disclosure Statement as soon as they are received by Counsel.

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(E-14)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Martin Novack", written over a horizontal line.

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